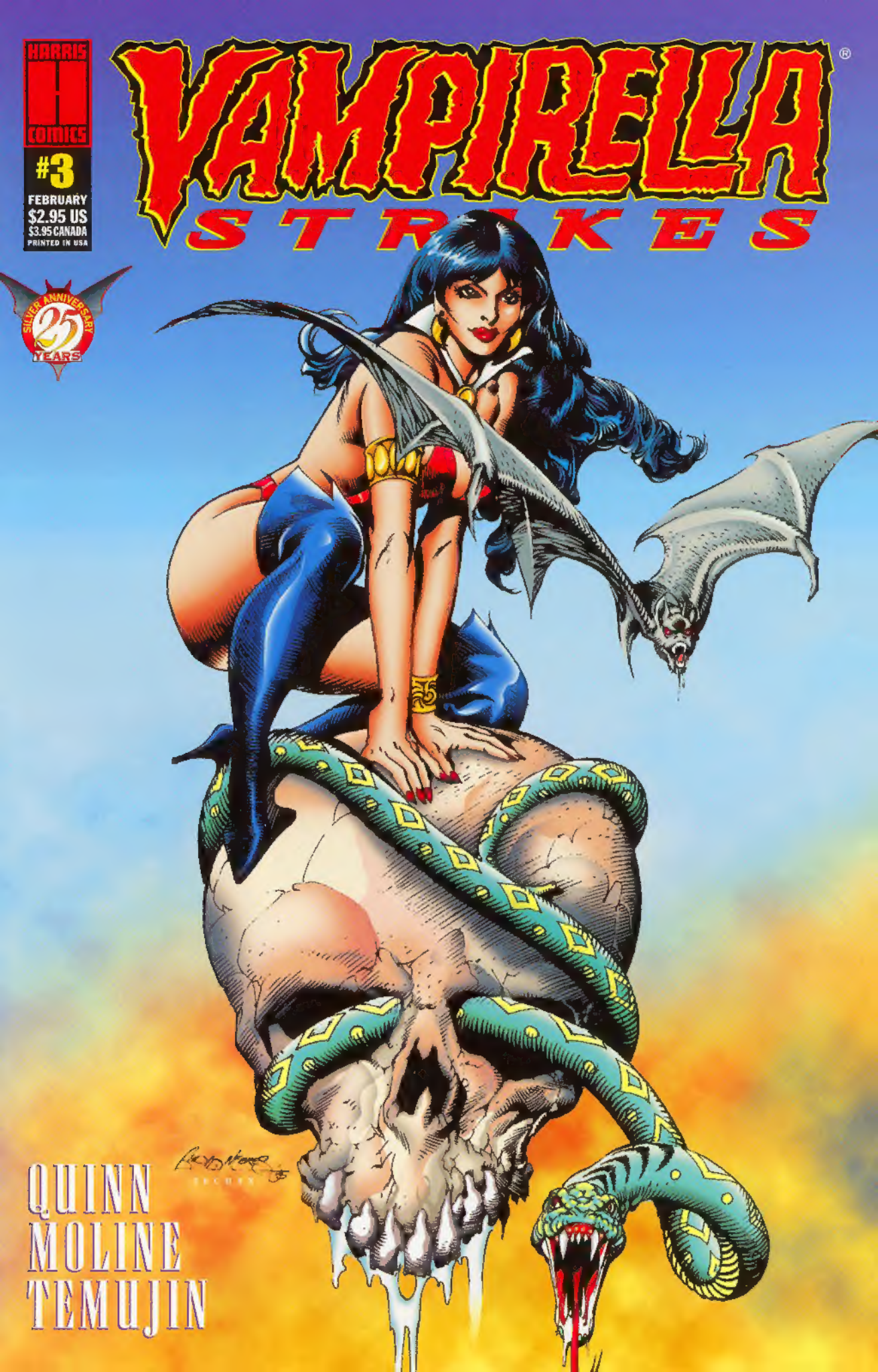
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"MIDWOOD STRIKES"

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PENCILER
KARL MOLINE

INKS
TEMUJIN

LETTERS
MIKE DE LEPINE

COLOR
KEVIN HORN & BEAR BYTE GRAPHICS

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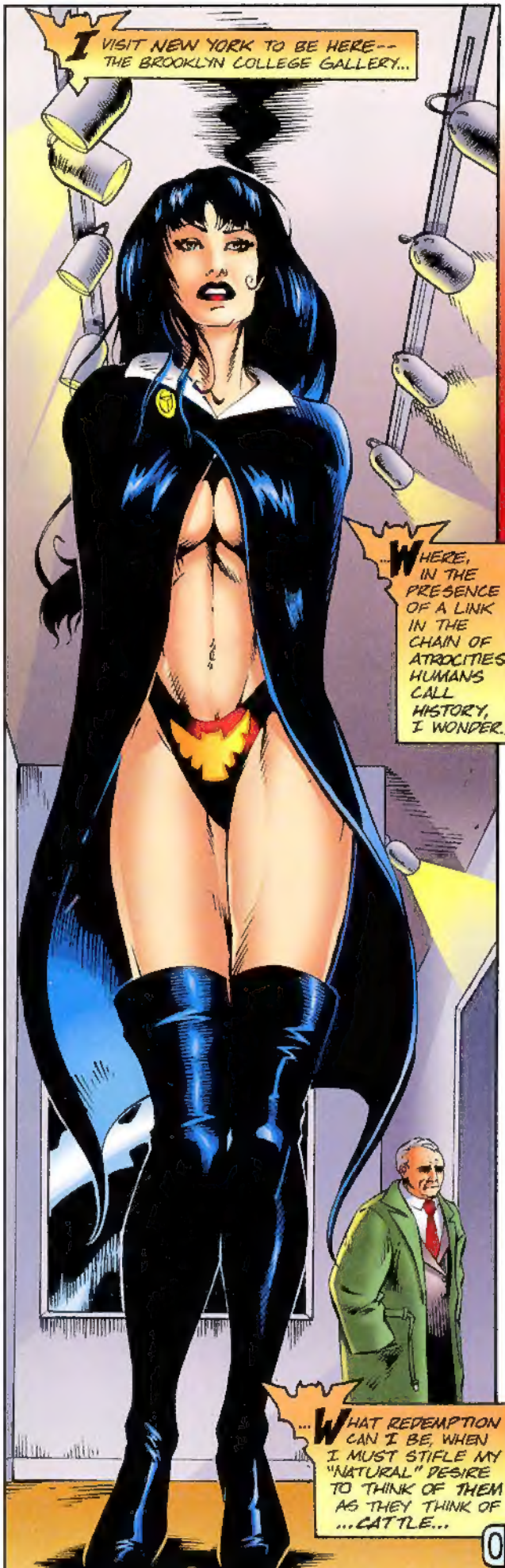
RANDOM-DCP

IT SEEMS THE MORE I MAP MY WORLD, THE MORE I MUST TRAVEL A RAZOR LINE...
...I'M CHARGED BY PRIMEVAL LILITH WITH BEING A SERVANT OF REDEMPTION--BUT WHO AM I TO JUDGE? MY OWN KINDRED WERE THE BLOODIEST MONSTERS I HAVE EVER WALKED WITH...*
...AND IF I LOOK TO HUMANKIND ...THEN I END UP FIGHTING FOR MY LIFE, SOILED BY THE FOULNESS, AND THREATENED BY THE DEEP PAIN...
...WITHIN MONSTERS OF THE HUMAN KIND, LIKE...
WITNESS: DAVID QUINN
CRIME SCENES: KARL & MOLINE TEMUJIN (PENCILS/INKS)
TESTIMONY: MIKE DeLEPINE/ALPHABET SOUP
COURTROOM VIDEO: KEVIN HORN
SOLE SURVIVOR: DAVID BOGART
MIDWOOD SKIN
01
*WALK THE MYSTERY WALK AND YOU'LL KNOW, TOO! --DAVID

I'LL NEVER KNOW WHERE HE CAME FROM, WHAT FORCES MADE HIM...
...THOUGH PENDRAGON TELLS ME HE BECAME RATHER INFAMOUS IN THE OTHERWISE-BENIGN BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOOD HE BORROWED HIS NAME FROM.
...THE NYPD AND THE ROUND-THE-CLOCK STAFF HERE AT FAST TRACK HAVE BEEN DELUGED WITH TIPS FROM HUNDREDS OF DIAL-IN WITNESSES...
CLOSED
...BUT THE KILLER FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE "MANHATTAN MUTILATOR" ...NOW KNOWN AS MIDWOOD SKIN...
...CONTINUES TO DOMINATE THE FAST TRACK HOTLINE!
IN EFFECT, A FIVE-BOROUGH COMMUTER ADVISORY...
SQUICKA SQUICKA
SCRRCCK!
...THE LATEST VICTIM OF THIS UNSPEAKABLY EVIL SOCIOPATH, STRUCK DOWN IN THE WEST 4th St. SUBWAY STATION LAST NIGHT... WILL NEVER COMMUTE AGAIN...
02

HIDE
SOME OF US STILL BELIEVE... PICKING UP HUMBLE TOOLS TO WORK THE NIGHT SHIFT WITH PRIDE...
...WITH ALL THE PARASITES OUT THERE SIMPLY TAKING UP SPACE, SOME STILL DARE... TO SERVE...
...IT'S LIKE YOU HAVE TO BE RICH TO AFFORD TO STAY CLEAN ...BUT THE RICH ARE THE BIGGEST LEECHES OF ALL.
EARTH'S SERVANT HEARD THE CALL, TO MAKE BETTER USE OF THEIR FAT ASSES--
LIKE THE OTHER VICTIMS, LOMAS SUFFERED FOR HOURS BEFORE DEATH... WHILE EMS TEAMS FOUGHT INFECTION AND HYPOTHERMIA...
Hmmm, THAT REMINDS ME-- BRING THE OIL TO WORK. LAST NIGHT, I COULDN'T KEEP THE MATERIAL SUPPLE...
...IT'S A SIN TO WASTE GOOD MATERIAL...
...I'LL LET YOU SOAK...
...CAN'T FORGET LUNCH... I NEED THE ENERGY...
...THE GREAT WORK IS NEVER DONE.
...CAN'T FORGET TOKENS... EARTH'S SERVANT PAYS HIS FARE... AND I'LL NEED QUARTERS...

...TO CONSECRATE THE WORK...
...ON THE PAY-PHONE...TO THE LADY ON THE TELEVISION...
FAST TRACK ATROCITY ANALYSTS FEAR THERE MAY BE MANY MORE MUTILATION MURDERS THAN WE KNOW OF...
...FOR THE EARLIEST PREY OF THIS RUTHLESS SOCIOPATH WERE HOMELESS, ALONE, LIVING OUTSIDE SOCIETY--IN OTHER WORDS, DIFFICULT TO COUNT.
AVENUE
HAVE A NICE DAY
NO MAPS
RECENTLY, HOWEVER, THE SLAYER HAS GOTTEN BOLDER... OR MORE DESPERATE...AS IF HE DOESN'T WANT HIS GRISLY HANDIWORK TO BE A SECRET ANYMORE!
THE QUESTION THAT HAS STUMPED FAST TRACK'S PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPERTS REMAINS...WHAT PURPOSE COULD THIS MADMAN HAVE FOR SAVING THE ONLY PRIZE HE HAS STOLEN FROM AT LEAST ELEVEN VICTIMS SO FAR...
--ZA MANHATTAN-BOUN' D TRAIN, NEXTOP NEWKIRK AVENUE, WATCH DA CLOSIN' DOORS--
...THE FLESH FROM THEIR BODIES?
I'M AMY BRAUTIGAN, AND THIS HAS BEEN ANOTHER FAST TRACK EXCLUSIVE--NOW YOU PLAY YOUR PART... DIAL 212-CD-CRIME...


I VISIT NEW YORK TO BE HERE-- THE BROOKLYN COLLEGE GALLERY...
...WHERE, IN THE PRESENCE OF A LINK IN THE CHAIN OF ATROCITIES HUMANS CALL HISTORY, I WONDER...
...WHAT REDEMPTION CAN I BE, WHEN I MUST STIFLE MY "NATURAL" DESIRE TO THINK OF THEM AS THEY THINK OF ...CATTLE...

...ESPECIALLY WHEN CONFRONTED BY...

...WHAT THEY DO TO THEM-SELVES.
STILL, THEY HAVE THE STUBBORNESS TO ENDURE ALMOST ANYTHING...
...AND THEY ARE ALSO CAPABLE OF GREAT ALTRUISM... CAN ONE LIKE ME BE THE SAME?

IF I WERE IN THIS PICTURE, WOULD I NOT CHOOSE WHO SHOULD LIVE AND WHO SHOULD DIE?
NAZI GERMANY CONVINCED ITS SOLDIERS THEY POSSESSED THE ONE RIGHTEOUS AGENDA, TOO.
COULD I BE TRUSTED TO CHOOSE WISELY... ONCE I BEGAN TO DRINK DEEPLY OF THEIR HOT, COURSING--
HEWWM! DIDN'T YA HEAR, MISS?
THE GALLERY IS CLOSED, NOW...
MY THOUGHTS RUN TO RED. THE GUARD'S THIN THROAT IS TORN, HIS LIFE IS A FOUNTAIN, A CELEBRATION. NO ONE INTERRUPTS THE THOUGHTS OF VAMPIRELLA!

I'VE HEARD THE BARS ON SECOND AVENUE CALLED "MEAT MARKETS..."

GINA, I DIDN'T TOUCH 'ER!

SKREEEURRMM

GINA, GET BACK HEAH!! GINAAAAH!!

SKANNG

BITCH!

--WHA?!

SPOOOOOSHIPP!

OW--COLEY, THAT AIN'T FUNNY--THIS BURNS LIKE... ACID! THIS'S A GOOD WAY...

TO GET YOUR BUTT...

...KICKED?

NOT ACID. THAT WOULD RUIN THE ELASTICITY...WARM BALSAMIC VINEGAR, ...AND SPANISH OLIVE OIL. AND LATER, OTHER ESSENCES...KEEP THE FLESH SUPPLE.

THE NAP OF THE FINAL PRODUCT IS UNAFFECTED BY FEAR...OR SCREAMING...

...I SAY THIS BECAUSE IN FIVE SECONDS, THE GRINDING MECHANICS OF THE TRAMWAY WILL PROVIDE ADEQUATE COVER...

...SO KNOCK YOURSELF OUT.

SOMEONE HAS TO SEE MORE THAN THE MEAT...

...IT WILL TAKE PENANCE AND EXTREME SACRIFICE... BUT SOMEONE HAS TO CARE...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING- GGAA- AAAR- RGH!

CHUKKACHUK

I'M CARING, SAVING THE WORLD...

...SAVING THE WORLD...

...ONE SKIN AT A TIME.

BY THE TIME THE TRAM IS SILENT, I'M DRESSED AGAIN... AND THE OFFERING IS NEARLY SQUEALED OUT.
THANK THE GREAT COSMIC MIND FOR DRIP-PROOF FREEZER BAGS...
shhuggh... Jesusshh... my facshesurgh ..burnin'...
..but i'm cold...
COLEY... GINA... DON'T LEAVE ME HERE...
...BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD I PURSUE MY CRAFT, THIS WORLD IS STILL WRETCHED... A FOUL BLEMISH WHEREVER I LOOK! EDEN CANNOT BE RECLAIMED BY ONE MAN!
GIVE ME A SIGN... HELP ME SEE THE WAY TO MAKE TOMORROW'S TOIL... SURPASS MY HARVEST SO FAR...
...I SHALL CALL THE TELEVISION... AND MORE WILL PICK UP THE TOOLS... TO JOIN ME.
09

Emph!
I WAS JUST LEAVING... NEED SOME AIR...
...Thank you.
THE BEAUTIFUL YOUNG LADY WILL EXCUSE AN OLD MAN'S ATTENTION, BUT YOU ARE ALL RIGHT?
EXCUSE ME?
FINE THANK YOU
SUCH A FACE YOU HAD IN THERE, MY GOD, I'VE NOT SEEN EXCEPT ON... SURVIVORS.
THE CAMPS WERE A NIGHTMARE OF NIGHTMARES. THE LONG DARKNESS... THAT ALMOST DIDN'T END. YOU'RE MUCH TOO YOUNG TO KNOW, MY DEAR, BUT PICTURES FROM A CAMERA MAKE IT BLACK AND WHITE...
...TO REMEMBER IS IMPORTANT, DON'T YOU THINK?

ONE MUST... COMPETE WITH ONE'S LONG DARKNESS, OR...
YOU WERE THERE, WEREN'T YOU, SIR?
AHHH, DO I LOOK THAT OLD? BUT YOU ARE, AS I AM, FROM EUROPE, ORIGINALLY, AM I RIGHT?
YOU HAVE THE TASTE OF THE OLD WORLD IN YOUR TEETH, AS MY FRIEND SOPHIE SAYS
OLD WORLD, SIR? Hmmmm, WE BOTH MUST BE PREPARED FOR WHATEVER WE FIND...
..WHEN WE BECOME SO CURIOUS WITH STRANGERS...
AT THAT MOMENT, UNDERGROUND.
YOU MAY NOT BE TRUE BELIEVERS, BUT YOU THREE ARE THE SIGN I PRAYED FOR. NOW WE ARE LEGION.
"YO, WE WERE GONNA SMOKE YOU 'TILL YOU TOLD US ABOUT THIS SUBWAY-JACK ANGLE."
I CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE ONE AT A TIME ANY MORE... I MUST RISK HARVESTING AN ENTIRE TRAIN...
IF I CANNOT COVER THIS CITY OF SIN WITH FLESH MADE NEW, I WILL BE FOREVER UNWORTHY IN THE EYES OF EDEN...
WHATEVER.
BUT IF THERE'S MONEY OR QUALITY SHIT, THAT'S OURS, BOY.
WHATEVER

"SHUT UP, BOY, AN HIT THAT D-TRAIN"
SO KIND OF YOU TO INSIST ON ESCORTING ME.
Ah, THE PLEASURE'S MINE--YOUR EYES BRING BACK ANOTHER YOUNG LADY...
AND YES, I HAVE SAID THAT BEFORE, MANY TIMES, TO MANY UNSUSPECTING LADIES, BUT THIS TIME, I'M NO LIAR.
NO LIAR? YOU AREN'T GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY TO TALK ABOUT MY EYES.
YOU WERE THERE, WEREN'T YOU?
YOU WERE A PRIS--
CHURK CH
ANYONE TRIES TO GET OFF GETS WHAT THE CONDUCTOR AND THE T.A. COP GOT--SUDDEN DEATH!
C'MERE, BITCH!
THIS MAN-HAT-TAN-BOUND D MAKING NO STOPS TIL WE COLLECT --ALL OF YOU MOVE TO THAT LAST CAR, NOW!
please no please
LET HER GO. YOU DON'T NEED TO KILL ANYONE TO GET OUR ATTENTON.
DID I AX FOR MOUTH, BITCH?
START WALKIN' OR I START POPPIN'!

SOON.
THESE BABY THUGS STRIPPED THE PASSENGERS OF THEIR VALUABLES IN SECONDS...
..BUT IF THEY INTENDED TO SHOOT US, THEY WOULD HAVE BY NOW...
AIN'T GOT ALL NIGHT, LET'S GO, LET'S GO!
..WE'RE GOING TO BE ALL RI--
OH, YOUR HAND IS SO COLD! WHAT IS IT?
I COULDN'T ADMIT IT BEFORE, GOD FORBID
"...BUT FOR ALL MY PHILOSOPHERS TALK ABOUT COMPLETING MY PAST, IT...
"I HAVE ONLY TO LET MYSELF REMEMBER... AND I AM ONCE AGAIN AS YOUNG AS THESE THIEVES, BOARDING ANOTHER TRAIN...
"IN AN OCCUPIED POLAND...
"HERE, THESE SCAVENGERS...
"...ROB US TO THE GOLD IN OUR TEETH!
"THE WOMAN'S NAME I NEVER KNEW, BUT THOSE FIERCE AND FRIGHTENED EYES..
"WHEN THE HEAVY DOOR SLAMS SHUT, HER EYES ARE FOREVER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LONG DARKNESS...
"IT IS STILL STRONGER THAN I AM."
LISTEN! THE TIME FOR TELLING STORIES WAS BACK AT THE HOLOCAUST EXHIBIT!
FIND A WAY TO STOP THIS TRAIN!
LEAVE THESE VIOLENT CHILDREN TO ME.

WHEN YOU BRAVE GUNMEN ARE THROUGH THREATENING THE ELDERLY TO CLAIM THEIR FEW POSSESSIONS...
COME AND TASTE A THRILL THAT IS REAL...
CHUKKA
CHUKKA
COME CLAIM SOMETHING OF ME!
WHOA!
THERE. I SHOULD HAVE THEIR COMPLETE ATTENTION.

YO, YO, MIDWOOD SKIN SAID NO BODIES!
KA-CHOW!
KA-CHOW!
I'LL KILL THE SLUT IF SHE DON'T DO WHAT I SAY--
YOUR BLIND HATRED MAKES ME BELIEVE I JUDGED CORRECTLY..
GUNNGH!
KA-CHOW!
TKKKSHH!!
...YOUR FIREARMS ALMOST MAKE THIS FEEL GOOD!
A MAN IS A FRAGILE THING. IT WOULD BE SO EASY TO TEAR THEM, DRAIN THEM OF WARM, BUBBLING LIFE-- IT WOULD BE A THRILL...
...BUT THEN COULD I EVER LIVE UP TO MY BIRTHRIGHT? BE THE REDEMPTION, MOTHER LILITH INTENDED?
KRUNCH!

OF COURSE, WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE ALTERNATIVE -- HUMANKIND'S HISTORY OF THE JACKBOOT...
YOU'RE SPENT, USED, SOLDIER. YOU FAILED THE GREAT COSMIC MIND.
DISMISSED.
BY THE SINNER'S BLOOD I WEAR, BY THE SHINING SCYTHE GUTWINDER I SWEAR...
...THIS SCUM QUEEN WILL NOT CONDEMN THE EARTH BY STOPPING MY HOLY WORK!
TRUE BELIEVER
...CONFRONTED BY TRUE BELIEVERS LIKE THIS. I'LL TRUST MY INSTINCT!

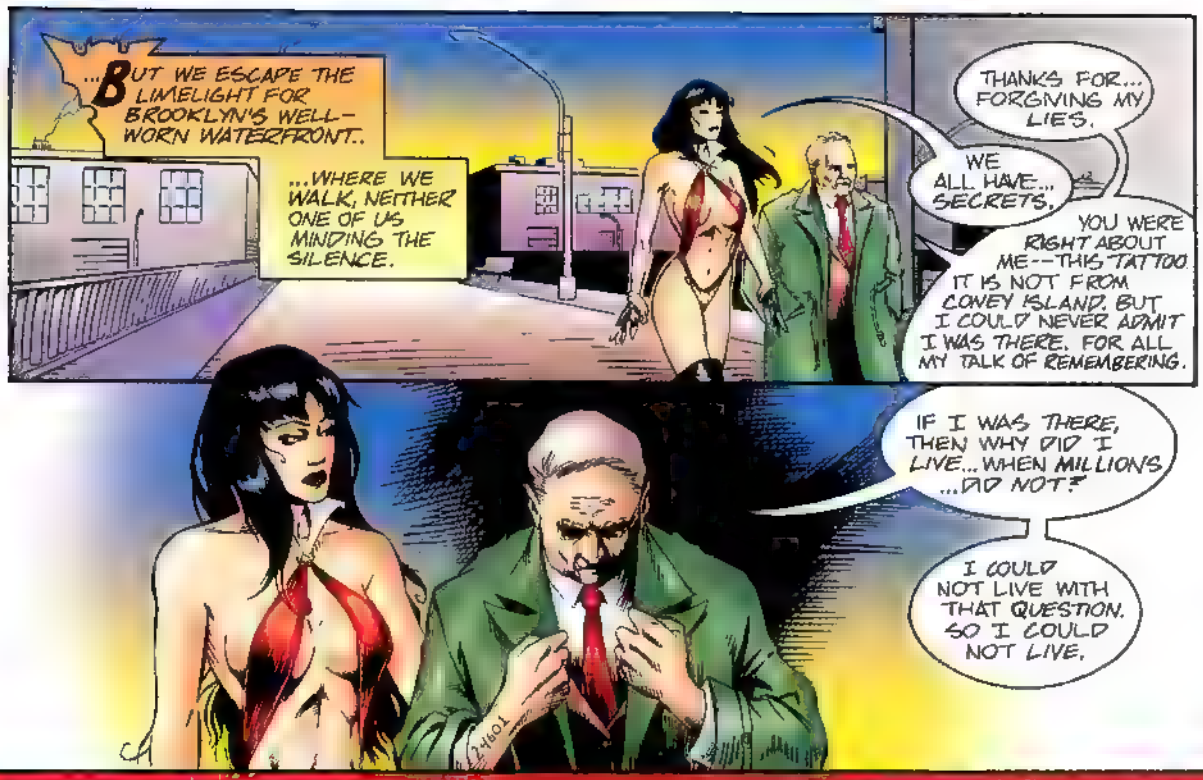
THE VULGAR HERD HAS NOWHERE TO RUN-- THE TRAIN'S BEEN DIVERTED TOWARD AN ABANDONED TRACK!
OH, THE AUTHORITIES MAY MISS US SOMEDAY--BUT BY THEN EARTH'S SERVANT WILL HAVE PROCESSED MILES OF FLESH--FOR THE RESTORATION!
AIIIEE!
CAREFUL! ONE AT A TIME! MOVE!
BLESSED SAYTR AND CIRCE! YOU REALLY BELIEVE YOU'RE SAVING THE WORLD!
AND I WAS SCARED I MIGHT BE LYING TO MYSELF!
CHUKKA
CHUKKA
HARLOT!
CHUKKA
CHUKKA

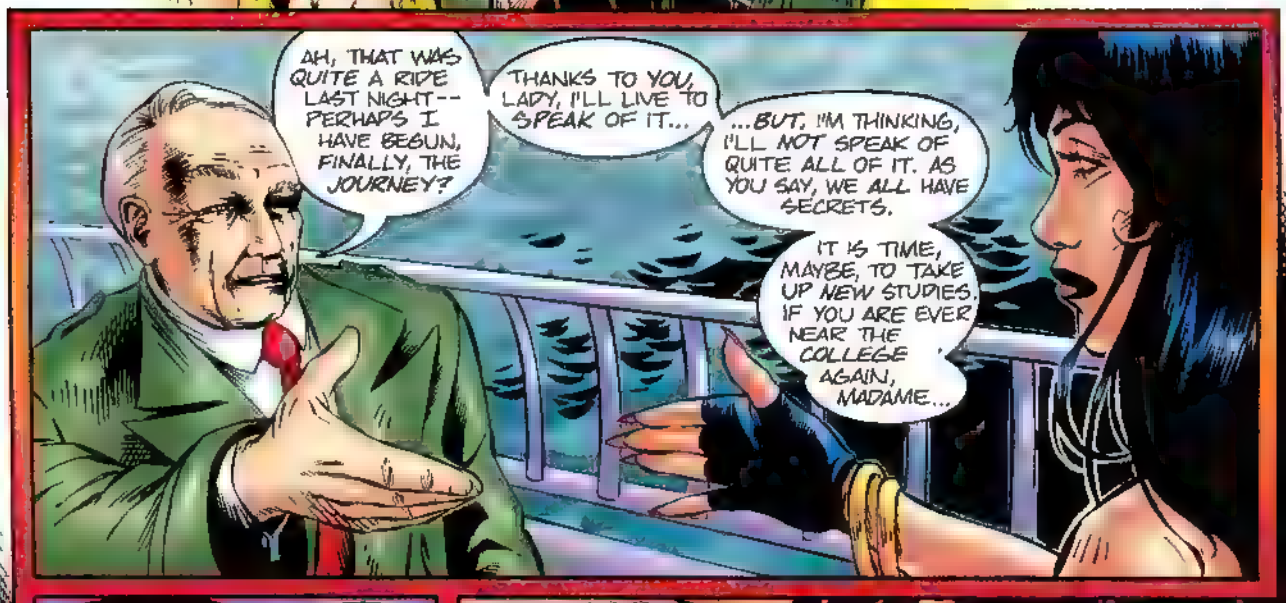
..THE DEATH TRAIN DOOR SLAMS SHUT.
..THAT WOMAN'S FIERCE AND FRIGHTENED EYES...
..LOST IN THE LONG DARKNESS...
SHUT UP, OLD MAN! THIS STRANGER IS ANOTHER WOMAN ENTIRELY...
...AND SHE NEEDS YOU TO REACH THE CONDUCTOR'S BOOTH, PULL THE EMERGENCY BRAKE...
..EVEN IF SHE DOES REMIND YOU OF THE GYPSY STORIES YOU HEARD AS A CHILD..
..WHEN WEIGHED AGAINST LIVING IN DARKNESS, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO FEAR OF DEATH?
AHHHHH!
kunkk
CHUKKA CHUKKA CHUK
I MAY HAVE TO END THIS WITHOUT THE OLD MAN'S HELP--LOST IN HIS NIGHTMARE HISTORY, HE'S PETRIFIED IN THE PRESENT!
ENRAGED, I BREAK NEW YORK CITY PROPERTY WITH THIS ODOROUS BEAST!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN DO THIS?

BETWEEN THE RUSHING CARS, THE TRAIN SEEMS TO SCREAM, "KILL THE BEAST!"
BUT I WANT ANSWERS.
WHAT DID THESE PEOPLE EVER DO TO YOU?
ALL SHALL SEE EDEN WHEN THE GUTTERS RUN CRIMSON WITH CLEANSING BLOOD..
..AND A NEW SKIN COVERS THIS CITY OF PARASITES.
..THESE PEOPLE...
...ARE A PESTILENCE! A DISEAAAAARRRGH!
BUT WHO WILL BE LEFT TO STAND IN YOUR EDEN? YOU, AND THE HUSKS OF CORPSES?
MOTHER LILITH... I AM A KILLER, TOO...

...HOW CAN I REDEEM HUMANKIND FROM ITS OWN TRUE BELIEVERS?
YOU'RE LYING! YOU'VE SEEN THE DISEASE!
YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT!
AND I WILL LIVE TO FINISH MY WORK--I WILL SEE EDEN..
. IF I HAVE TO LEAVE A MILLION CORPSES!
JUST WHEN I NEED HIM... MY SENIOR PARTNER FINDS HIMSELF AGAIN..
GOD FORBID, MISTER, TOO LATE TO SAVE YOU..
...BUT THIS IS ONE DEATH TRAIN I CAN STOP!
SKREEEEKK
THAT'S WHEN I FREEZE.
I NEVER SAW HIS EYES. BABY BLUE EYES. EYES THAT MIGHT LOOK INTO THE PRIMAL INNOCENCE HE DESIRES... LOST IN A MASK OF HATE.
BUT WHAT MUST I DO? EVEN MIDWOOD SKIN BELONGS... TO HUMANKIND!

SSKKK
RREEE
AS THE TRAIN HALTS, I DO WHAT I MUST...
HUMANITY MAY BE SICK...
...BUT I WILL FIGHT THE DISEASE, NOT THE DISEASED!
KNOK-OK
BABYLON
...LATER, WHEN THE VICTIMS' BODIES ARE GATHERED, THANKS TO RECORD CALLS TO THE FAST TRACK HOTLINE, THE REMAINS OF MIDWOOD SKIN ARE ABSENT...


...BUT WE ESCAPE THE LIMELIGHT FOR BROOKLYN'S WELL-WORN WATERFRONT..
...WHERE WE WALK, NEITHER ONE OF US MINDING THE SILENCE.
THANKS FOR... FORGIVING MY LIES.
WE ALL HAVE... SECRETS.
YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT ME--THIS TATTOO IT IS NOT FROM COVEY ISLAND. BUT I COULD NEVER ADMIT I WAS THERE. FOR ALL MY TALK OF REMEMBERING.
IF I WAS THERE, THEN WHY DID I LIVE... WHEN MILLIONS ...DID NOT?
I COULD NOT LIVE WITH THAT QUESTION. SO I COULD NOT LIVE.


AH, THAT WAS QUITE A RIDE LAST NIGHT-- PERHAPS I HAVE BEGUN, FINALLY, THE JOURNEY?
THANKS TO YOU, LADY, I'LL LIVE TO SPEAK OF IT...
...BUT, I'M THINKING, I'LL NOT SPEAK OF QUITE ALL OF IT. AS YOU SAY, WE ALL HAVE SECRETS.
IT IS TIME, MAYBE, TO TAKE UP NEW STUDIES. IF YOU ARE EVER NEAR THE COLLEGE AGAIN, MADAME...

...ASK FOR DAVID HAMERMAN.

GOOD LUCK, DAVID. I PROBABLY WON'T BE BACK. BUT YOU HAVE MADE A FRIEND..
...IN VAMPIRELLA.
AND A FRIEND IS A RARE GIFT.. IN THESE SAVAGE DAYS.

IT SEEMS THE MORE I MAP MY WORLD, THE MORE I MUST TRAVEL A RAZOR LINE...
...I'M CHARGED BY PRIMEVAL LILITH WITH BEING A SERVANT OF REDEMPTION--BUT WHO AM I TO JUDGE?
MY OWN KINDRED WERE THE BLOODIEST MONSTERS I HAVE EVER WALKED WITH...
...AND IF I LOOK TO HUMANKIND...

...WELL, LET US SAY...
...I WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK... TO HUMAN-KIND...
fim

Profile: Karl Moline

Place of birth: Washington D.C.
Influences/why? Adam Hughes— Great layouts and beautiful figure drawings. Brian Bolland, Kevin Nowlan, Steve Rude, Mike Mignola— These guys have beautiful black and white composition as well as beautiful figure drawings.
How did you break into the comic business? I went to the Philadelphia Convention and showed my work to Harris.
Favorite snack at two o' clock in the morning? A big bowl of Mac and Cheese.
Who would you have play Vampi in a movie? You mean, she's not a real person?
Weirdest thing that ever happened to you: Getting hired to do the book— I never believed it would actually happen.
Favorite band: Nine Inch Nails. Oh, and Lenny Kravitz— even though, he's not a band.
What's your favorite barnyard animal? Baby pigs, they remind me of little shaved dogs.
Favorite Video Game: Battle Arena Toshinden. I even beat the whole game!

Profile: Jason Temujin Minor

How did you get the name Temujin, and what does it mean? My father gave it to me. It is Ghengis Khan's real name. My dad thought I'd take over half the world like good old Ghengis.
Place of birth: Chicago
Influences/why? Mark Pennington. He took me in as an apprentice when I first got started. Other people made me want to get into comics like: Alan Moore and Dave McKean.
Credits/recent comic projects: Animal Man (DC) and various one shots
How did you break into the comic business? A lot of hard work. I went to the Kubert School and then spent the next two years trying to break in.
Favorite snack at two o' clock in the morning? Opium— hey, it's only a joke!!
Tips for young artists: Go to Med School.
Weirdest thing that ever happened to you? I was chased through the woods by an ax wielding maniac— and this is not a joke!!
Favorite band: Pink Floyd
What kind of milk do you drink? Skim Milk

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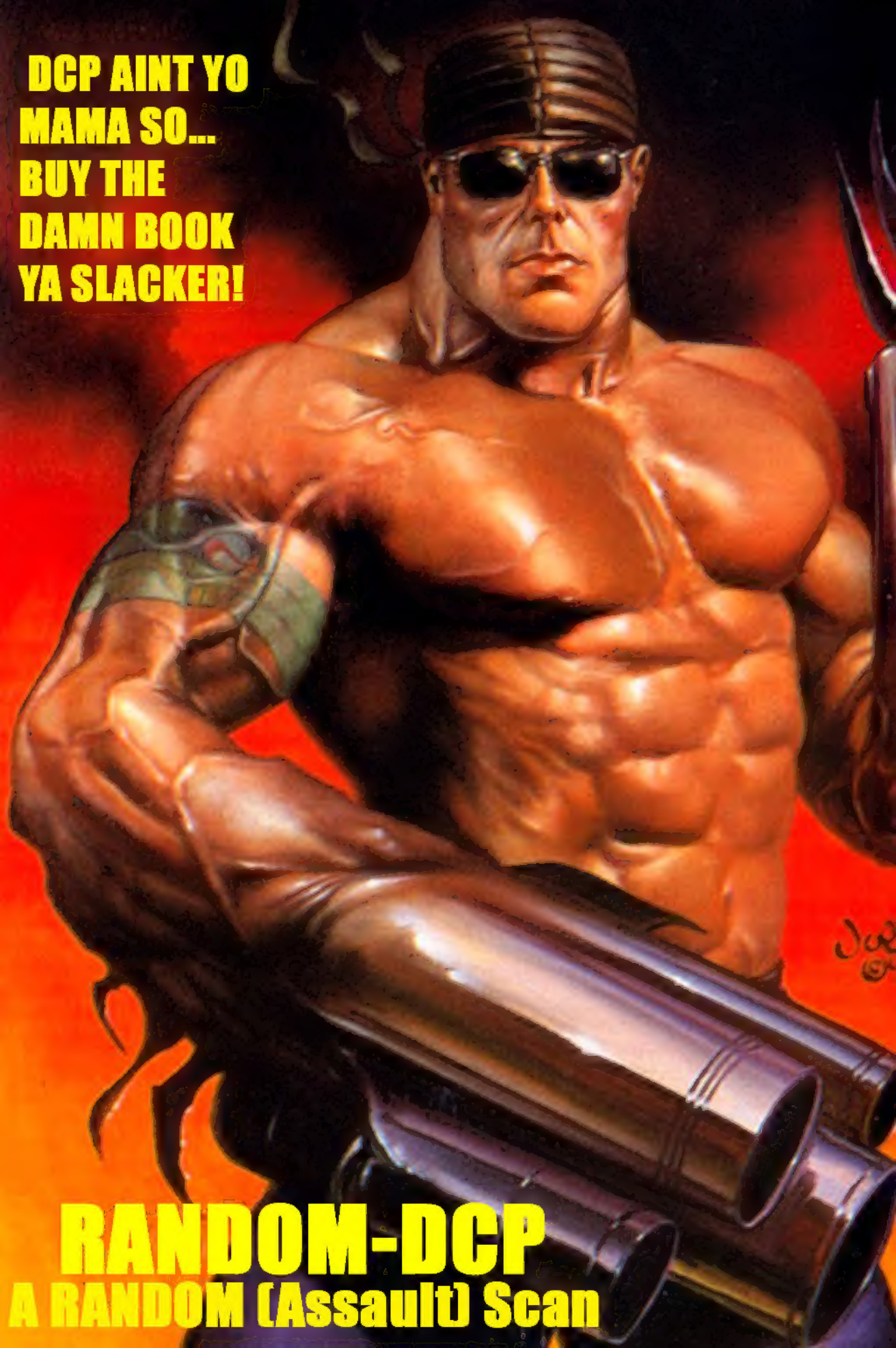
DCP AINT YO
MAMA SO...
BUY THE
DAMN BOOK
YA SLACKER!
RANDOM-DCP
A RANDOM (Assault) Scan